

**Mendon City Council Meeting**  
**May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015**  
**Mendon Station – 95 North Main**  
**Meeting began at 7:05pm**

**In Attendance:**

**Mayor:** Ed Buist

**Council Members:** Greg Taylor, Jon Hardman, Shawn Osborne, Kelly Barrett

**Clerk:** Teena Young

**Recorder:** Paul Cressall

**Public Works Director:** Kirk Taylor

**City Engineer:** Eric Dursteler

**Excused:** Bob Jepsen; Daphne Carlson, Treasurer

**Other Attendees:** Chris Slater, Paul Willardson, Matthew Regen, Jeff Powell, Becki Taylor, Daine Buist, Cassidy Buist, Ian Nemlka

Mayor Ed Buist called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Kelly Barrett with the prayer being given by Shawn Osborne.

**Minutes:** The April 2015 minutes were reviewed and approved.

**Bills:** The April 2015 bills were reviewed. Motion to approve the bills was made by Shawn Osborne and seconded by Kelly Barrett. Motion passed unanimously.

**Youth Council Report – Shawnie Oswald**

The youth council scraped and painted the gazebo and provided the music for the May Day dance. They would like to request money to purchase a mini iPod for the May Day music so that they do not have to use personal devices. Kelly Barrett thanked the youth council for their service.

**Chris Slater – JUB Engineers – Cache County Conservancy District**

Chris Slater presented information regarding the proposed formation of a Cache County Conservancy District. A master plan has been developed in order to look at future water needs of the county. The plan stated that a conservancy district would be the best way to plan for the future. Chris Slater stated that in the 1980's the Bear River Development Act allocated  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the acre feet of water from the Bear River to the Wasatch front, leaving Cache County with 60,000 acre feet of water that needs to be protected.

The Division of Water Resources (DWRe) has been tasked to develop the Bear River. Though this is many years in the future, they have purchased a right of way to bring a pipeline from the Bear River into the Wasatch Front. Bob Fotheringham, Cache County Water Manager, has been meeting with DWRe to protect Cache County resources.

In the past there has been concern about conservancy districts because the board would be a taxing body. Chris stated that there are legal limits to the taxes imposed for water and these taxes would be from \$1-\$2 per month for the average household. A conservancy district would protect the Bear River allocation for Cache County, improve water conservation, unify the county with a stronger voice, and provide representation. The district would not take or pull existing water rights or interfere with local management.

Mayor Buist stated that one goal would be to interconnect Hyrum Reservoir with the Bear River. Chris stated that some communities would benefit from this connection, and it would be looked at by the board in the future. The council questioned how the conservancy district would benefit the Mendon community. Chris stated that there are studies measuring the "real value" of water which conclude that water resources bring economic wellbeing to communities. Also, if the Bear River was developed, the city could purchase shares and swap for other sources of water. Jon Hardman added that increased secondary water usage would free up culinary resources.

The conservancy board would consist of up to 11 board members. A meeting will be held July 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> in order to discuss the formation of the board. Mendon city officials are encouraged to attend.

Jon Hardman stated that he appreciates the council taking this seriously as he sees this as the most important topic facing the county. Other communities have been dried up because the water resources have been taken to municipalities. Jon stated that the formation of the conservancy district has been defeated twice before because people don't like to create another taxing entity. The difference with the conservancy district would be that the taxes generated could only be used for water infrastructure/maintenance. Cache County is one of the last counties in Utah to form a conservancy district and if we don't do something this water will be used in the Wasatch front. Jon added that the district could benefit Mendon by helping bring culinary water from Wellsville at some point.

Eric Dursteler asked about how much voice each community would have in the district. Chris stated it would depend on how the board is set up. There won't be a person from each city, so it would be broken up into representative areas. Mayor Buist affirmed that it is important that one or two small towns are represented on this board and not just the larger cities in the valley.

### **Fiscal Year 2013/2014 Audit Report – Matt Regen, CPA**

Matt Regen conducted the annual audit for Mendon City. The audit details where the money comes from, how the services are funded, and indicates what money is available for future projects.

The revenues are similar to the previous year's revenues but did decrease slightly because of the RAPZ grants from previous years. Income taxes are the biggest revenue

Going forward there will be an increase in bond payment to include principal payments but there is sufficient revenue to cover these costs. The largest asset is the city's infrastructure. After reading the auditor's report, Matt stated that he has a few minor recommendations, but overall he sees that the city has done well.

### **Jeff Powell – Final Plat Subdivision**

Jeff Powell presented the final plat for the subdivision. Everything has been previously negotiated and discussed. Shawn Osborne motioned to approve the Powell Subdivision Final Plat, Kelly Barrett seconded the motion. Jon asked about the transfer of secondary water. The Powell's have submitted a signed Intent to Transfer letter, detailing that 5 shares will be transferred to Mendon city and 6 shares to each of the 1.88 acre lots. No building permits will be issued until the water has been transferred. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Animal Control Contract / Law Enforcement Contract**

The Council has reviewed the contracts with Cache County for Law Enforcement and Animal Control. The Council approved the contracts for these services.

### **Deputy Sutherland – not present**

### **Fiscal Year 2015/2016 Preliminary Budget**

Mayor Buist presented the preliminary budget for July 2015-June 2016. The Admin budget has increased for additional IT needs. The Parks budget has decreased because the grant money has been used. Fire Department budget remains the same as the Admin budget will cover internet charges.

The Cultural Arts Committee has been awarded a \$40,000 RAPZ grant for the library. Kelly Barrett asked that the Youth Council budget be increased to cover the mini iPod. Mayor Buist stated that this cost will come out of the Admin IT budget instead. Engineering Fees have been put at \$5,000; development will be a pass through, but this will cover other engineering needs. Attorney fees are also included.

Mayor Buist detailed the budget for the new building fund which included the donations, asking for \$75,000 from the capital projects. The bidding process will begin July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015, with construction beginning in the Fall.

The Trails project will be paid from the \$47,000 RAPZ grant plus some impact fees. Approximately \$6,000 is needed for engineering fees which will come from the capital projects budget. Shawn will negotiate with

Cartwright engineers and Eric Dursteler, city engineer, to see if we can decrease the engineering cost.

**City Building – Ground breaking Ceremony, July 24<sup>th</sup>, 7pm**

A program will be put on by the Watkins family in the evenings during that week. Mayor Buist asked that the council and staff let him know of any suggestions for the ground breaking program.

**A City Staff Summer Picnic will be held June 26<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm at Pioneer Park.**

**Kirk Taylor – Public Works**

Kirk stated the Mendon Station exterior light fixtures need to be repaired and hard wired. LED bulbs would be preferred; he will contact Rocky Mountain Power to look into possible rebates. Mayor Buist stated that Lowe's has grants for cities that could possibly be used to improve the Mendon Station lighting.

There have been two internments this month. The cemetery shed roof needs to be repaired or replaced. Kirk would like to spend the remaining park grant money on some trees; three at the cemetery and the rest at the parks.

The water department is ready to go. The nitrate levels are at 9.56 and may increase/decrease based on the weather.

Kirk added that they are hoping to fill pot holes next week depending on the weather.

**Eric Dursteler – City Engineer**

Eric Dursteler attended FEMA training and asked about the city's Flood Plain Ordinance. Jon Hardman stated that the city passed one in 2011 so that the city would be in compliance. Teena Young will locate the ordinance.

A \$40,000 grant for the water study has been awarded to Mendon city. Mayor Buist will increase the engineering budget line to take in this 'pass-through' item. The actual study will take place in late summer.

**Council Reports**

**Shawn Osborne**

Shawn stated that construction of the trail project will begin in June. They need to talk to property owners about trees that are planted on city right-of-way.

A citizen inquired about a newly constructed fence installed by a homeowner within the city right-of-way. P&Z is aware of the issue.

Shawn has received information from Cheryl Henrie, school secretary, about the process for renting the school gym. Shawn will talk to the new principle when she takes her position.

The council expressed thanks to the Heart of Mendon. A card will be sent to express appreciation for their many hours spent in community service.

Continued efforts are being made on improving the website. Shawn is also looking into the possibility of online payment of utility bills.

**Kelly Barrett**

Kelly stated that there are needed improvements to be made with the roads. Fire Chief, Ray Olsen, reported that the Fire Department is on track with the budget. Youth Council has been doing a great job and he appreciates the council agreeing to get Youth Council the mini iPod.

**Mayor Buist**

Mayor Buist stated that Paul Cressall will be temporarily resigning on May 31<sup>st</sup> and will be reinstated on Aug 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015. Karine Cressal will act as Interim Recorder during the hiatus. Mayor Buist reminded the Council that three councilmen are up for re-election and need to submit paperwork in June to be considered for re-election.

**Jon Hardman**

Jon stated that the rain fall has been beneficial as canal water has not been turned on yet, which means the resource will extend through the summer. The canal water is available for 92 days once it is turned on.

The Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) provided the seed to plant the city property. Jon stated that we need to acknowledge the contributions of the Taylor family to plant crops. This year will be a good test to these efforts aimed at decreasing the turkey population in town.

The retention pond at Pheasant Hollow Subdivision hasn't had any water in it even with large amounts of the rain. Jon wonders if it has been altered. He would like to monitor the pond and if there is a safety issue, the city will have to pursue options.

**Greg Taylor**

Greg reported that the Mosquito Abatement is not meeting until June. The gazebo has been painted by the Youth Council, and there is concern that it may need to be replaced at some point.

Kirk Taylor added that a citizen's hand was injured on the swings at Mendon Square. Kirk filed them temporarily until new swings were installed. The liability insurance company settled with the citizen for the cost of medical care, and she signed a "Release of Liability".

Shawn Osborne motioned to adjourn. Kelly Barrett seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 9:30pm.